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APPLICATION NO	D. ' F	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/851,825 05/09/2001		05/09/2001	Stephen A. Canterbury	47079-00092 3932	
30223	7590	07/09/2003			
JENKENS & GILCHRIST, P.C.				EXAMINER	
225 WEST WASHINGTON SUITE 2600			NGUYEN, KIM T		
CHICAGO	D, IL 6060	6		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				3713	$\tilde{\rho}$
				DATE MAILED: 07/09/2003	"

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	IN A.						
	N A.						
	CANTERBURY, STEPHEN A.						
Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit							
Kim Nguyen 3713							
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply	•						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communicated. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status	ation.						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on							
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ This action is non-final.							
Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Disposition of Claims							
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-18</u> is/are pending in the application.							
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-18</u> is/are rejected.							
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers							
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.							
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.							
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.							
12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120							
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).							
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:							
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.							
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No							
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 							
14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional applic	ation).						
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.							
Attachment(s)							
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:							

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DETAILED ACTION

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozeki et al (US. Patent No. 5,402,385) in view of Helmbold et al (US. Patent No. 5,497,450).
- a. As per claim 1 and 4, Ozeki et al discloses a method for write protecting a storage medium of a game machine. The method comprises decoding a selected address of the storage medium (col. 5, lines 49-68; col. 6, lines 1-29; and col. 1, lines 16-19). Ozeki et al does not disclose disabling the load condition as claimed. However, Helmbold et al discloses disabling the load condition of the data register if the selected address matches an address of the data register (col. 8, lines 21-36). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the step of disabling the load condition of Helmbold et al to the write protecting method of Ozeki et al in order to protect the protected data.
- b. As per claim 2, Ozeki et al discloses including a write enable selection (col. 6, lines 41-53).

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c. As per claim 3, including card enble inputs would have been well known.

d. As per claim 5-18, refer to discussion in claims 1-4 above.

Cited References

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

Mani et al (US. 6,034,889), Vuong et al (US 2002/0147042), Yasu et al (US. 5,912,849)

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discloses write protecting for a memory.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Kim Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-7915. The examiner can

normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30AM to 5:30PM ET. The fax phone number

for this Group is (703) 872-9302.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

kn

Date: June 27, 2003

KIM NGÙYEN